



Charging Policy 2019

(Updated March 2019)

CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

INTRODUCTION

At Belmont school we believe that all pupils should have an opportunity to benefit from a wide range of curricular and extra-curricular activities independent of their parents financial means. The purpose of the policy is to describe how we can best ensure that all children benefit from these activities whilst acknowledging financial barriers which may prevent some children from taking full advantage of the opportunities provided.

Education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activities undertaken as part of the National Curriculum. However, we do ask for contributions for 'extra-curricular or enrichment' activities.

CALCULATING CHARGES

Charges are based on the actual cost divided by the number of pupils participating in the activity. Payment is made in advance. Some families are given remission or help with charges based on their individual circumstances. Pupil Premium funding may be used where children entitled to free school meals due to receipt of benefits are unable to pay. We are unable to give refunds in the event a child is unable to attend due to absence.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experiences of the children the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary, however, if we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution, we do not treat these children differently from any other.

Additional fund raising within year groups may be necessary to cover shortfalls in contributions received to prevent an activity being cancelled.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school which may require voluntary contributions from parents/carers. These activities are known as "optional extras or enrichment".

This list is not exhaustive:

Visits to museums

- Sporting activities
- Outdoor adventure activities
- Visits to or by a theatre company
- Musical events
- School trips
- Transport costs for extra curricular events/school trips
- Workshops in school
- performers

MUSIC TUITION

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum and no charge is made for this.

There is a charge for individual or small group tuition since this is an additional curriculum activity and not part of the National Curriculum and parents can choose whether their child learns an instrument.

- Pupils pay £200 per year for 36 lessons (2018/19) academic year. Charges are reviewed annually.
- Some instruments may be hired from the school at a cost of £30 per annum.
- Fees are collected annually in advance. Lessons will not begin until payment has been made and refunds are not possible as a commitment is made in advance to Harrow Music Service who provide the lessons.
- Availability is subject to a minimum number of 4 students per half hour session and fees cover the cost of lessons.
- Pupil Premium children who are currently entitled to free school meals due to receipt of benefits are entitled to a discount of 50%. There is no charge for 'looked after' children.

LUNCH TIME AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

The school offers a range of additional activities out of school hours. These include a range of sports, dance, drama and creative clubs.

- If run by member of school staff a nominal charge (£2 to £3) is made termly in advance to cover materials i.e. Art Club, Cookery Club.
- If run by outside provider the cost of the club is divided by the number of children and the school pays the provider.

Lost/damaged Books:

- A charge of £5 is made for lost/damaged library book, £3 for a scheme book.

This Policy is reviewed annually and was last reviewed by the Governing Body on:

28th June 2018